

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Mitt Romney, Governor ♦ Kerry Healey, Lt. Governor ♦ Jane Wallis Gumble, Director

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ROMNEY AWARDS \$300,000 FROM STATE'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND

Projects in Allston and Roxbury will create affordable homeownership and rental opportunities

Focusing on his Administration's commitment to increasing Massachusetts' housing supply, Governor Mitt Romney today awarded \$300,000 from the state's Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF) to support development projects in Boston's Allston and Roxbury neighborhoods that will create 23 homeownership and two rental units, all of which will be affordable to low- and moderate-income households.

The non-profit Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation (ABCDC) is receiving \$200,000 to create 10 new homeownership units on a former industrial site located at 81 Hano Street in Allston. The attached townhouses will be sold to income eligible first-time homebuyers earning at or below 80% of area median income. The site was previously home to the B.R. Gale Company and is adjacent to the Legal Seafoods plant at 33 Everett Street, which currently is being redeveloped with 50 units of rental housing financed in part with a \$1 million loan from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

New Boston Housing Enterprises III, LLC is receiving \$100,000 in trust funds to support the Julian/Woodville New Housing Initiative –11 homeownership and two rental units to be built on vacant land owned by the City of Boston on Julian, Rand, Fairbury and Woodville Streets in the Dudley Triangle area of Roxbury. All the units will be sold to first-time homebuyers earning at or below 80% of area median income, while the rental units will be restricted to households at or beolw 50% of median.

"During these financially difficult times, it is important that we continue serving the housing needs of the Commonwealth's low- and moderate-income families through the Affordable Housing Trust Fund,"

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said state Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Director Jane Wallis Gumble.

Trust fund awards are targeted for projects that create or preserve housing throughout the state for households that do not exceed 110 percent of the area median income as defined by HUD. DHCD oversees the trust program, and funds are administered by the quasi-public agency, MassHousing. Since fiscal year 2001, \$56 million has been awarded from the fund to create or preserve over 4100 housing units, more than 3,300 of which are affordable to low- and moderate-income residents. Another \$10 million has been awarded to modernize a number of state owned public housing developments across Massachusetts.

"After only a few years, the Trust Fund has become one of the most valuable housing programs in Massachusetts," said Thomas R. Gleason, Executive Director of MassHousing. "It has helped to create thousands of units at a time when we desperately need to increase the housing supply."

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